



REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
1978 Island Ford Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30350

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

TITLE 36, CHAPTER I

Compendium of Designations, Closures, Request Requirements and Other Restrictions imposed under the discretionary authority of the Superintendent

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter I, Parts 1 through 7, authorized by Title 16, United States Code, the following regulatory provisions are established for the proper management, protection, government and public use of the portion of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

These discretionary regulations are in addition to the other regulations published in Title 36, CFR, Chapter I, Parts 1 through 7. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in Title 36, CFR, Chapter I.

/s/ signature on file

Kevin G. Cheri
Superintendent

June 21, 2002

Date

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Park Definition

Park means the waters of the Chattahoochee River, to the maximum extent ("bank-to-bank"), from Buford Dam to its confluence with Peachtree Creek and the land units along it as defined in the park's enabling legislation.

§1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

(a)(1) Park Hours - The park is closed to all visitor use during the hours of darkness, except under conditions of a permit issued by the Superintendent. Darkness is defined as thirty (30) minutes after local sunset to thirty (30) minutes before local sunrise.

(a)(1) Motorized Vessels - The following areas are closed to motorized vessels, all year:

- Island Ford Pond
- Sibley Pond

A vessel with a motor may be considered in compliance with the closure if the motor is removed from the transom, or other attachment point from which it is operated, and placed in the bottom or on the deck of the vessel, or left ashore.

(a)(1) Golf Equipment - The Park is closed to the use of golf equipment including golf balls. The use of golf carts may be authorized with the approval of the Superintendent.

(a)(1) Glass Containers - The Chattahoochee River is closed to the possession of all glass containers.

(a)(1) Model Aircraft, Rockets, Vessels, and Vehicles - All lands, waterways and airspace within Chattahoochee River NRA are closed to the use of model aircraft, rockets, vessels, vehicles and similar motorized devices.

(a)(1) Hash House Harrier Games - The playing of hash house harrier games is prohibited. The dropping of flour or other marking materials for the use of marking a trail or path is prohibited.

(a)(1) Geocaching Games - The establishment of geocaches is prohibited.

(a)(1) Closures - Entering an area of the park posted closed with a Public Notice or Area Closed sign is prohibited.

(a)(2) Park Passes - Drivers of vehicles which park in designated parking lots identified by fee area signs are required to purchase and properly display a daily or annual park pass. Daily and annual park passes are not transferable between vehicles, a separate park pass must be purchased for each parked vehicle. The daily park pass must be displayed face up on the interior vehicle dashboard. The annual park pass must be displayed affixed on the inside of the driver's side clear glass, on the windshield, side or rear window of the vehicle. Annual park passes may not be taped to vehicle glass nor affixed under tinted glass. The

display of the annual park pass receipt is not sufficient and does not satisfy the display requirement of this section.

(a)(2) Special Use Permit Limits - Special Use Permits may be issued no earlier than one hundred twenty (120) days and no later than three (3) days prior to the start of the permit. No one organization or group may reserve the same area more than three (3) consecutive weekends or seven consecutive days in any thirty (30) day period.

§1.6 Permits

(f) The following activities require permits:

- Closures and public use limits - 1.5(a)(2)
- Weapons, traps and nets - 2.4(d)
- Research specimens - 2.5(a)
- Camping and food storage - 2.10(a)
- Audio disturbances - 2.12(a)(2), (3) & (4)
- Aircraft and air delivery - 2.17(c)(1)
- Recreation Fees - 2.23
- Explosives - 2.38(a) & (b)
- Special events - 2.50(a)
- Public assemblies, meetings - 2.51(a)
- Sale or distribution of printed matter - 2.52(a)
- Livestock use and agriculture - 2.60(b)
- Residing on federal land - 2.61(a)
- Memorialization - 2.62(b)
- [Vehicle] Load, weight and size limits - 4.11(a)
- Business operations - 5.3
- Commercial photography - 5.5(a) & (b)
- Commercial vehicles - 5.6(c)
- Construction of buildings or other facilities - 5.7

§2.1 Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources

(c)(1) All native and non-native fruits, berries and nuts may be collected for personal use or consumption.

(c)(2)(i) Gathering of native and non-native fruits, berries and nuts are limited to one (1) quart per person per day.

(c)(2)(ii) The use of ladders or climbing of vegetation is prohibited while gathering native and non-native fruits, berries and nuts. All collections must be accomplished while within reach of the ground.

§2.2 Wildlife Protection

(d) It is prohibited to transport lawfully or unlawfully taken wildlife through any lands or waters of the park with the exception of lawfully taken fish. Lawfully taken wildlife may be transported on state and county roadways that pass through the park without obtaining a permit from the Superintendent.

(e) The entire park is closed to the viewing of wildlife with an artificial light.

§2.4 Weapons, Traps and Nets

(d) Authorized armored car company officers in the performance of their official duties and in possession of their official company credentials may carry or possess a weapon without obtaining a permit from the Superintendent.

§2.10 Camping and Food Storage

(a) A permit is required from the Superintendent in order to camp within the park.

§2.13 Fires

(a)(1) Fires may be lighted and maintained without obtaining a permit from the Superintendent when the fire is contained in a grill or other suitable container designated for such use.

(b) Fires shall be extinguished upon termination of use to the extent that no hot coals, ash or burnt materials remain. Cold coals, ash and burnt materials shall be deposited in metal trash receptacles or removed from the park.

§2.14 Sanitation and Refuse

(a)(8) In developed areas, human body waste may only be disposed of in restroom toilet and urinal fixtures designed for that purpose.

§2.15 Pets

(a)(1) Park lands and waters north of Highway 120 (Abbotts Bridge Road) and all lands acquired since December 19, 1999 are closed to pets with the exception of horses utilizing designated equestrian trails.

(a)(5) Individuals in possession of pets must have on their person a bag or device for the containerization and removal of pet excrement. Individuals shall immediately containerize and dispose of excrement deposited by their pet in a trash receptacle or remove it from the park. This section shall not apply to individuals in possession of horses utilizing designated equestrian trails.

(e) Pets may not be kept by park residents.

§2.16 Horses and Pack Animals

(b) Horses are only permitted on the designated equestrian trails located on the Forsyth County side of the Bowman's Island Unit.

§2.21 Smoking

(a) Smoking is prohibited in the interior of all government non-residential structures, government residential structures designated as dormitory housing and government vehicles and vessels operated by the park.

§2.51 Public Assemblies

(e) Locations are designated in Appendix A.

§2.52 Sale or Distribution of Printed Matter

(e) Locations are designated in Appendix A.

§4.11 Load, Weight and Size Limits

(a) A permit is required from the Superintendent in order to operate a vehicle exceeding designated load, weight and size limits within the park. Vehicles exceeding designated load, weight and size limits that are operating on state and county roadways that pass through the park may do so without obtaining a permit from the Superintendent.

§4.21 Speed Limits

(b) The following maximum speed limits are designated for the following park roads:

Twenty-five (25) miles per hour:

- Island Ford Parkway (from the main gate through the last curve prior to the Headquarters building)
- Jones Bridge Access Road

Twenty (20) miles per hour:

- Island Ford Parkway (from the end of the road at the Headquarters building to the start of the first curve)

Fifteen (15) miles per hour:

- Paces Mill Access Road
- Akers Mill Access Road
- Whitewater Creek Access Road
- Indian Trail Access Road
- Powers Island Access Road
- Cochran Shoals Access Roads
- Sope Creek Access Road
- Johnson Ferry Access Roads
- Gold Branch Access Road
- Vickery Creek Access Roads
- Chattahoochee River Environmental Education Center (CREEC) Access Road

- Medlock Bridge Access Road
- Abbotts Bridge Access Road
- Settles Bridge Access Road

Ten (10) miles per hour:

For bicycles on unpaved park roads closed to public vehicle traffic that are identified with posted bicycle permitted symbolic signs located in the following areas:

- Cochran Shoals Unit
- Sope Creek Area

§4.30 Bicycles

- (a) Bicycles are allowed on all paved park roads and parking areas open to public vehicle traffic.

Bicycles are allowed on unpaved park roads and parking areas open to public vehicle traffic located in the following areas:

- Akers Mill Parking Lot
- Indian Trail Access Road and Parking Lot
- Cochran Shoals Access Road and Parking Lot
- Johnson Ferry Access Roads and Parking Lots
- Gold Branch Access Road and Parking Lot
- Vickery Creek Access Roads and Parking Lots
- Abbotts Bridge Access Road and Parking Lot
- Settles Bridge Access Road and Parking Lot

Bicycles are allowed on unpaved roads closed to public vehicle traffic that are identified with posted bicycle permitted symbolic signs and located in the following areas:

- Cochran Shoals Unit
- Sope Creek Area

These bicycle routes located within the Cochran Shoals Unit and Sope Creek Area are identified on a map in Appendix B.

All other unpaved park roads closed to public vehicle traffic are closed to bicycles.

Justifications for Compendium Actions

§1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

(a)(1) Park Hours - Nighttime water fluctuations due to dam releases and cold water temperatures make nighttime navigation on the river difficult and hazardous. The inability to distinguish passages through rocky shoals and judge the rise of the river in the dark increases the chance of injury and death. Unrestricted access at night would allow travel by people unfamiliar with and/or without a sufficient level of proficiency to safely negotiate the Chattahoochee River.

Little legitimate nighttime use exists as camping is only allowed by permit. Cliffs and steep terrain are difficult to distinguish at night and possess a serious hazard of injury and death.

The close proximity of the park to the metropolitan Atlanta area makes it susceptible to activity such as vandalism, unauthorized fires, abuse of alcohol and drugs, juvenile incidents and confrontations that may occur as a result of these activities. Cooperative relationships with other agencies, signing, engineering and enforcement by park rangers have not been as effective as simply closing the park at night.

(a)(1) Motorized Vessels - Island Ford and Sibley Ponds are small ponds which are used for environmental education programs and fishing. The size of the ponds and shallow areas in each make them more conducive to rowing than the use of motors. Motors would leave fuel and oil residue in the small ponds polluting the waters. These tranquil locations offer an opportunity to teach environmental education in a natural setting free of the noise and disturbance that a motorized vessel would bring.

(a)(1) Golfing Equipment - Although the park is a national recreation area, not all recreational uses are compatible. The use of golf equipment, specifically using open areas in the park for driving golf balls produces several problems. Lost golf balls produce litter in the natural environment. Driven balls fly a great distance, so one person may, by virtue of the potential injury from being struck, exclude other visitors from the use of an entire open field area. The divots created in the grass from swinging clubs would, in sufficient quantity, cause bare areas and erosion problems.

(a)(1) Glass Containers - Glass containers are broken while picnicking or boating or when left behind as trash creating a significant safety hazard. Glass decomposes at an extremely slow rate and remains a hazard for a long period of time. Glass in the river is difficult to see even in clear water. Hands and feet become cut and boats and rafts are damaged from broken glass.

(a)(1) Model Aircraft, Rockets, Vessels, and Vehicles - Model aircraft are usually propelled by small gasoline driven engines. They are usually remote controlled but the operator does not have complete control over the craft due to winds or operator error. There is potential injury to bystanders, visitors, wildlife and vegetation from being struck by a fast moving aircraft. The use of aircraft may exclude other visitors from the use of an entire open field area. The small engines are noisy and

produce exhaust into the air, which affects the quality visit of other park visitors. Wildlife are often disturbed due to the noise associated with these types of devices.

Model rockets are usually propelled by small chemical driven engines. They are usually not controlled by the operator. There is potential injury to bystanders, visitors, wildlife and vegetation from being struck by a fast moving rocket. The use of rockets may exclude other visitors from the use of an entire open field area. The small engines are noisy and produce exhaust into the air, which affects the quality visit of other park visitors. Wildlife are often disturbed due to the noise associated with these types of devices.

Model vessels are usually propelled by small gasoline and oil driven engines. They are usually remote controlled but the operator does not have complete control over the craft due to currents or operator error. The small engines are noisy and leave gasoline and oil residue in the water, which affects the quality visit of other park visitors. Wildlife are often disturbed due to the noise associated with these types of devices.

Model vehicles tend to need a lot of open space, such as a parking lot, to operate. Usage in a parking lot presents a safety hazard to bystanders and traffic alike. There are no acceptable locations in the park for a visitor to use a remote control vehicle in an enjoyable and safe manner. Wildlife can be disturbed due to the noise and movement associated with these types of devices.

(a)(1) Hash House Harrier Games - This game involves running along a pre-marked route that is marked with flour or other marking material. These markers are usually called "Hashes". Runners chase the person marking the route who is usually called the "Hare". The "Hare" drops flour or other material to mark the trail. The marking material is not readily identifiable and causes concern to both visitors and park staff. This game encourages players to move off trail that leads to vegetative damage and erosion problems. Organizers of this type of activity are known to hold events in the park without prior approval or any attempt to obtain a Special Use Permit.

(a)(1) Geocaching Games - Geocaches typically are hidden in natural areas or archeological sites. The object of this game is to locate well-hidden caches that may be buried. This game encourages participants to move off trail that leads to vegetative damage and erosion problems. Digging disturbs park resources and damages archeological sites. This activity can be alarming to bystanders who misidentify the individuals when they observe participants hiding or acting in a suspicious manner to avoid detection. Organizers of this type of activity are known to hold events in the park without prior approval or any attempt to obtain a Special Use Permit.

(a)(1) Closures - Some areas of the park are closed periodically for public safety, resource management and maintenance reasons. These closures are to safeguard the public from hazards, prevent resource damage and to perform maintenance activities.

(a)(2) Park Passes - Daily and Annual Park Passes must be properly displayed to ensure compliance with this regulation. This is the only fair way to enforce the payment of park fees. Park passes must be placed in the interior of the vehicle to prevent theft. Annual park passes taped to vehicle glass allow their removal and use with other vehicles. Annual park passes placed on tinted windows can not be seen and verified by park rangers. The annual park pass receipt carries no value and thus does not satisfy the display requirement of this section.

(a)(2) Special Use Permit Limits - Without this rule, some groups would reserve areas up to a year in advance for their exclusive use preventing other groups and individuals from having the opportunity to use park areas. The one hundred twenty (120) day limit on issuing permits ensures that areas are not reserved so far in advance to preclude use to others. The three (3) consecutive weekends or seven consecutive days in any thirty (30) day period limit on reserving the same area allows the land to rest to prevent overuse, damage to the resources and erosion.

§1.6 Permits

The permits listed are required to implement closures, restriction and designations made in Title 36, CFR, Chapter I and this compendium. Without the permits, the Superintendent would have a series of discretionary closures, restrictions and designations. The permits allow an orderly system of visitor use management.

§2.1 Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources

(c)(1) The harvest of small quantities of fruits, nuts and berries has not been a problem in the park from the standpoint of resource preservation.

(c)(2)(i) The failure to establish a limit on the volume that may be collected each day could result in resource damage. The limit is set to minimize the possibility of harvest of resources in commercial quantity.

(c)(2)(ii) The restriction on gathering from or within reach of the ground prevents damage to resources from individuals climbing vegetation or the use of ladders. This restriction also eliminates the chance of a person falling and receiving an injury.

§2.2 Wildlife Protection

(d) Preventing taken wildlife from being transported through the park reduces the chance that the animal was poached from the park. Subjecting drivers of vehicles operating on state and county roadways that pass through the park to this rule is unreasonable and not practical.

(e) Wildlife in the park are protected from harassment including the use of artificial lights for viewing. The park units are essentially islands in an urban area. In some cases, the park is the only place for wildlife to escape to a natural setting where they should be free from human interference.

§2.4 Weapons, Traps and Nets

(d) It is unreasonable to expect authorized armored car company officers in the performance of their official duties to obtain a permit from the Superintendent in order to carry their weapon while in performance of their official duties.

§2.10 Camping and Food

(a) The park has no facilities for organized camping. The park units are small in size, and in close proximity to urban development, so primitive camping is not practical. Serious resource impacts would be expected from a large number of persons camping. Camping may be allowed in infrequent instances by permit from the Superintendent when camping has a direct association with the purpose of the park visit and the group size is such that impact on resources are kept to a minimum.

§2.13 Fires

(a)(1) Restricting the use of fires to grills or other appropriate containers will minimize the chance of human-caused wildfires, possible damage to adjacent private property, and degradation of park resources.

(b) Ensuring that no hot coals, ash or burnt material remain after a fire will minimize the chance of human-caused wildfires, possible damage to adjacent private property, and degradation of park resources. The requirement to deposit coals, ash and burn material in metal trash receptacles or removed from the park further reduces the chance of a re-ignition and keeps visitor use areas clean.

§2.14 Sanitation and Refuse

(a)(8) Requiring that human body waste be disposed in appropriate restroom fixtures in developed areas protects public health and safety and park resources by preventing further bacterial contamination from runoff into the Chattahoochee River.

§2.15 Pets

(a)(1) Wildlife in the park are protected from harassment by domestic pets. The park units are essentially islands in an urban area. In some cases, the park is the only place for wildlife to escape to a natural setting where they should be free from human interference. Park lands acquired since December 31, 1999, are primarily north of Highway 120, (Abbotts Bridge Road). These lands created a corridor for wildlife to move along the river that would be disturbed if pets were allowed.

Horses and dogs often do not interact well and create a hazard for individuals when they are together. Park equestrian trails are located

in the Forsyth County side of the Bowman's Island Unit at the north end of the park.

(a)(5) The proper disposal of pet excrement protects public health and safety, helps control the spread of disease, avoids degradation of the visitor experience from the sight and smell of fecal material, and reduces bacterial contamination from runoff into the Chattahoochee River.

(e) It is impractical to allow park residents to keep pets. Park housing is in a dormitory style with areas being shared by multiple occupants. Pets often cause odor and cleaning problems and some occupants may be allergic to pets.

§2.16 Horses and Pack Animals

(b) The use of horses is not practical in most areas of the park due to limited trail mileage and steep sections causing erosion problems. The Cochran Shoals trail is particularly fragile due to the trail surface being a compacted, smooth gravel/sand mixture, that is susceptible to damage from the hooves of horses. The irregular surface that would be created by horse use would destroy its value for jogging, walking and bicycling and promote erosion. The additional problems of manure on the trail would adversely affect the visitor experience.

Horses are permitted in the Forsyth County side of the Bowmans Island Unit at the north end of the park. A cooperative effort was made with the neighboring subdivision in order to blend their equestrian trail with the parks.

§2.21 Smoking

(a) Smoking is prohibited to ensure a healthy workplace for employees and visitors.

§4.11 Load, Weight and Size Limits

(a) A permit is required of vehicles exceeding designated load, weight and size limits in order to protect park roadways from excessive wear and tear and damage. The park roads are relatively narrow and winding with limited forward visibility. Larger and overweight vehicles pose a significant safety hazard to other vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Subjecting drivers of vehicles operating on state and county roadways that pass through the park to this rule is unreasonable and not practical.

§4.21 Speed Limits

(b) Speed limits on park roads need to be reduced from those stated in 36 CFR 4.21(a) for public safety. The park roads are relatively narrow and winding with limited forward visibility. The speeds identified are appropriate for the construction of the roads and the amount of

pedestrian and bicycle activity that takes place on, along, and across the roads.

The speed of bicycles is limited for the safety of the rider as well as pedestrians sharing the roads. Bicycle maneuverability is necessary in order to avoid collisions and conflicts with other visitors.

§4.30 Bicycles

(a) Bicycles are allowed on the unpaved roads closed to public vehicle traffic located within the Cochran Shoals Unit and Sope Creek Area because resource damage and conflicts with other visitor uses are minimal. These roadways are wider than a normal foot trail and permit multiple uses with minimal conflict. This use is in keeping with the park's national recreation area status. Other areas of the park with unpaved roads closed to public vehicle traffic are not suitable for bicycle use.

Appendix A

Locations Designated for §2.51 Public Assemblies and §2.52 Sale or Distribution of Printed Matter

Paces Mill - The grass north of the entrance road at the southwest corner of the first paved parking section. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 40'.

Palisades at Akers Mill - The gravel west of the entrance road at the northwest corner of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 40'.

Palisades at Whitewater Creek - The grass along the woodline at the southwest corner of the parking lot and south of the access gate. Starting at the fence an area 25' by 60'.

Palisades at Indian Trail - The gravel north of the entrance road at the north corner of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 40'.

Powers Island - The grass along the woodline west of the entrance road and southeast of the vehicle turnaround. Starting 20' from the entrance road and area 20' x 60'.

Cochran Shoals at Interstate North Parkway - The pavement west of the entrance road at the southeast corner of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 60'.

Cochran Shoals at Columns Drive - The pavement southeast of the entrance road at the east corner of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 40'.

Cochran Shoals at Sope Creek - The pavement south of the entrance road at the southwest corner of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 40'.

Johnson Ferry South Area #2 - The grass along the woodline to the east of the parking lot and southeast of the access gate. Starting at the fence an area 25' by 40'.

Johnson Ferry South Area #1 - The gravel at the northeast end of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 60'.

Johnson Ferry North - The pavement at the northwest end of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 40' by 120'.

Gold Branch - The grass along the woodline to the west of the parking lot and northwest of the access gate. Starting at the fence an area 40' by 40'.

Vickery Creek at Allenbrook - The grass along the woodline southwest of the entrance road at the southeast corner of the parking lot. Starting 10' from the parking lot an area 30' by 40'.

Island Ford - The grass along the woodline on the north side of Island Ford Parkway, west of the maintenance facility entrance road and west of the pond. Starting 10' from the entrance road an area 10' by 80'.

Holcomb Bridge - None.

Jones Bridge - The grass along the woodline at the east corner of the parking lot. Starting 30' north of the restroom sidewalk an area 25' by 80'.

Medlock Bridge - The pavement south of the entrance road at the southwest corner of the parking lot. Starting at the first parking space an area 20' by 40'.

Abbotts Bridge - The grass along the field southwest of the entrance road, east of the parking lot, northwest of the ditch in the field and north of the restroom. Starting 20' from the entrance road and parking lot an area 40' by 40'.

Suwanee Creek - None.

McGinnis Ferry - None.

Settles Bridge - None.

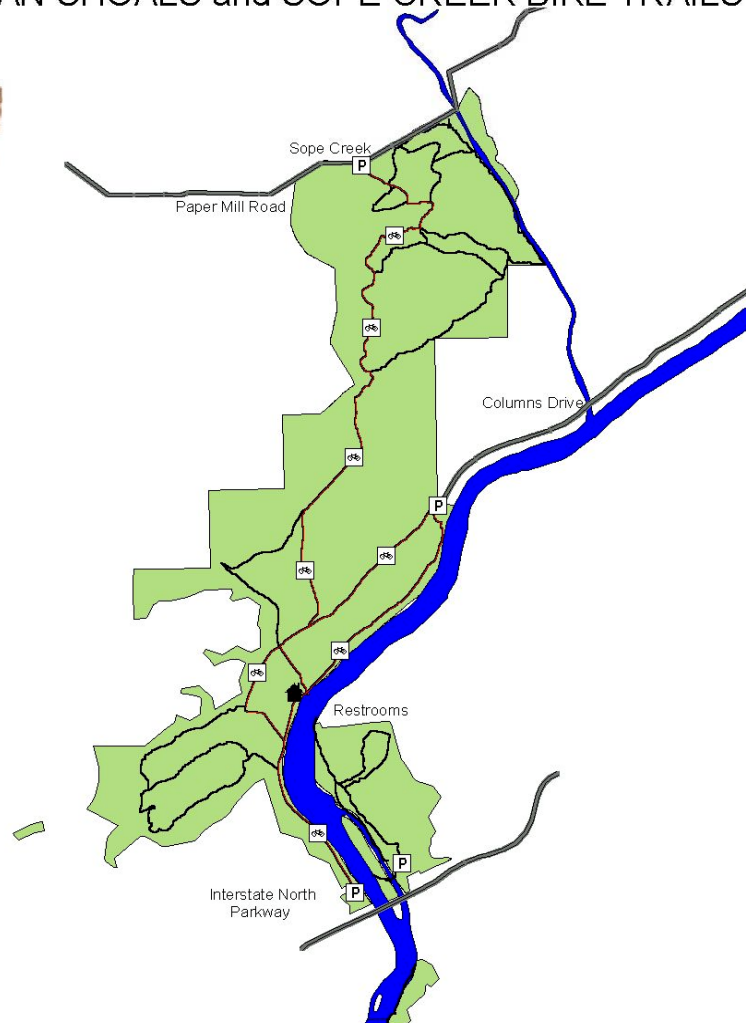
Bowman's Island - None.

Note: Maps of these areas are available for inspection at park headquarters during normal business hours.

Appendix B

Cochran Shoals Unit and Sope Creek Area Bicycle Route Map

COCHRAN SHOALS and SOPE CREEK BIKE TRAILS



Bicycles allowed on designated trails only.
Please be respectful of others and share the trails.
Pets must be kept on a 6' leash. Please scoop your pet's poop.



Bike and Foot Trail



Foot Trail only



Park Boundary

National Park Service
Chattahoochee River
National Recreation Area
1978 Island Ford Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30350
(770) 399-8070
www.nps.gov/chat

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